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REPORT

of the

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

to the

URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL OF WOODBRIDGE.

for the YEAR 1946.

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Mr. Chairman,

Ladies and Gentlemen,

Herewith my Report for the year 1946 on the lines indicated by the Ministry of Health.

I am,

Your obedient servant,

CLAUDE H. IMRIE.

Medical Officer of Health.

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STATISTICS AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS OF THE DISTRICT.

AREA (in acres) 1097.

ESTIMATED POPULATION for mid-year 1946 (Registrar General's) 4998.

NO. OF INHABITED HOUSES at the end of 1946 1861.

RATEABLE VALUE £31310 ; and the estimated sum representing a Penny Rate is £123. 10s.

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VITAL STATISTICS.

POPULATION. The Registrar General's estimate of the mid-year population is 4998.

LIVE BIRTHS.

	Total.	Male.	Female.
Legitimate	88	42	46
Illegitimate	9	3	6

This gives a Birth Rate per 1000 population of 19.4 ; (England and Wales 19.1).

STILL BIRTHS.

	Total.	Male.	Female.
Legitimate	2	2	-
Illegitimate	-	-	-

This gives a Still Birth Rate per 1000 population of 0.4 (England and Wales 0.53)

The Still Birth Rate per 1000 total births is 20.

DEATHS.

Total.	Male.	Female.
88	39	49

This gives a Crude Death Rate per 1000 population of 10.76; (England and Wales 11.5).

DEATHS FROM PUERPERAL CAUSES.

Puerperal Sepsis	Nil.
Other Maternal Causes	Nil.

DEATH RATE OF INFANTS UNDER 1 YEAR OF AGE.

All Infants per 1000 Live Births	51.5 (Eng.&Wales 43)
Legitimate Infants per 1000Legitimate Live Births.	56.8
Illegitimate Infants per 1000Illegitimate Live Births	nil.
Deaths from Cancer (all ages)	13.
Deaths from Measles(all ages)	nil.
Deaths from Whooping Cough (all ages)	nil.
Deaths from Diarrhœa (under 2 years of age)	nil.

Disease	total notified.	Age Group 0	1	2	3	4	5	10	15	20	35	45	65 up	Adm. to Hosp.	total deaths
Scarlet fever	2						1		1					2	
Whooping Cough	31	2		4	1	7	15		1	1					
Measles	153	9	13	7	17	22	65	18	2						
Ac. Polioencephalitis	1									1					1
Pneumonia	13	1	1		1	1			1			1	7		
Erysipelas	5								4			1			
Puerperal pyrexia.	1								1						

During the year under review Measles showed a sharp rise in incidence, and there was a steady trickle of cases of Whooping Cough.

The single case of acute Polioencephalitis was a sporadic case, the infection being incurred elsewhere than in the Urban District. The patient was admitted to hospital and died there.

In addition to the above-mentioned infections there was one case notified of Infective Jaundice.

DIPHTHERIA IMMUNISATION

Children up to the age of 15 are offered immunisation against diphtheria, close co-operation being maintained with the County Public Health Department. Infants can have the injections at the Infant Welfare Clinic, and school children and also babies are injected at the periodic visits made to the local schools. Figures for the year are as under:-

Children completing a course of immunisation in 1946:-

0 - 4 years.	5 - 15 years.
52	11

Re-inforcing or "boosting" doses were offered to school children who had completed a course of primary immunisation in their infancy, and a total of 456 scholars had the benefit of this "booster" dose of toxoid.

PUBLIC HEALTH SERVICES.

Tuberculosis, Venereal Diseases, Maternity and Child Welfare (including care of premature infants and illegitimate children) and School Medical Services, - These are all Public Health matters under the aegis of the County Council.

Disinfestation of persons and premises is the concern of the Urban Authority, and arrangements are made for the disinfestation of premises by various fumigants and chemical cleansing agents; and personal cleansing can be carried out by preparations such as lethonol and benzyl-benzoate. During the year no cases of infestation were brought to the notice of the Public Health Department.

TUBERCULOSIS.

The figures given below give an analysis of cases of tuberculosis notified or dying during 1946.

age groups.	New Cases.				Deaths.			
	pulmonary		non-pulmonary		pulmonary		non-pulmonary	
	m	f	m	f	m	f	m	f
0								
1								
5								
10								
15	1							
20	2				1			
25						1		
35	1							
45								
55								
65 up								

Other notable figures are as below:-

	Pulmonary m	Pulmonary f	Non-pulmonary m	Non-pulmonary f
Cases added to Tuberculosis Register having come into the District from other areas	1	2	-	-
Cases removed from Tuberculosis Register				
i. Diagnosis not established	1	-	-	-
ii. Removed to other Districts	1	1	-	-
iii. Cured.	-	-	-	1

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WATER SUPPLIES.

(1) The water supply during 1946 was satisfactory both as regards quality and quantity.

(2) During the year examinations were made of water.

(3) The water has a moderate degree of hardness, and at no time has there been evidence of plumbesolvent action.

(4) No complaint was received, and no evidence was found of pollution of piped water. In the case of private wells, if the quality of the water is not satisfactory simple sterilisation of the water by boiling is recommended and the well is cleared out, or ordered to be closed up, and the mains supply laid on.

(5) No. of inhabited houses during 1946	1861
Population (Registrar General)	4998
Average number of persons per house	2.68

(6) Dwelling houses supplied with piped water

(a) direct to houses	916	- 49.2%
(b) by standpipes to groups of houses	335	- 18%

(7) Proportion of population supplied with mains water

(a) by direct supply to houses	49.1	
(b) by standpipes to groups of houses.	17.9	approximately.

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FACTORIES ACT 1937.

Number of factories using mechanical Power.	36
Number of factories not using mechanical Power	1
Inspections during 1946	10

no defects were revealed by inspections.

SANITATION AND DRAINAGE.

An extension of the sewerage system was made to deal with the Naunton Road Housing Scheme.

All other Public Health matters are being held over pending instructions from the Ministry of Health.

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